



Meeting Minutes

Payson PCE and Tonto & Cherry Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site Community Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 6, 2006
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Community Development Building
303 Beeline Highway
Payson, Arizona

DRAFT MINUTES

Ref: PIOU #07-005

CAB Members Present: John Shoemaker, Sean Meares, Damian Wiseman, Robin Morris,
Roger Hatstrup

ADEQ Staff in Attendance: Wendy Flood, Community Involvement Coordinator, Chris
Gamache, Project Manager

Members of the Public Present: Dorothy Herrig, Morris Brown, Lynn Godfree

The following matters were discussed, considered, or decided at the meeting:

1. Welcome and Introductions-

Mr. John Shoemaker called the meeting to order. Introductions were conducted of those present.

2. Acceptance or Changes to March 7, 2006 meeting minutes –

Mr. Hatstrup moved to accept the minutes as submitted. It was seconded by Mr. John Shoemaker. The CAB voted unanimously to approve the minutes. Mr. Morris asked that for the next meeting, an agenda topic be added to discuss changing the agenda format to have all voting done first before site status presentations.

3. Treatment System Status and Site Activities for Payson PCE and Tonto and Cherry-

Mr. Gamache summarized the topics of the treatment system status report to be carbon change out activities and current and future activities for the two sites. Mr. Gamache reported that breakthrough was detected in the first carbon vessel below the action level of 2.5 parts per billion (ppb) for tetrachloroethene (PCE). The middle sample (between the two vessels) can not go above 2.5 ppb, and since there was a detection of 1.2 ppb, Mr. Gamache decided that the carbon would be changed in the lead vessel. Mr. Gamache explained how the carbon change out procedure works. Mr. Gamache continued by informing the CAB that during inspection of the inside of the empty vessel,

rust was discovered. In order to be proactive, Mr. Gamache has decided to shut off the system and recoat the vessel. Mr. Gamache explained how water flows through the treatment system and that the second vessel is the safety net for the system. The second vessel will become the primary vessel and the newly coated vessel will be the secondary. The treatment plant is completely shut down for this process.

Mr. Hattrup asked about the coating used inside the vessels. It was explained that a low volatile organic compound (VOC) paint coating similar to one used for all Town of Payson (TOP) drinking water vessels will be used.

Mr. Shoemaker asked for clarification on why the carbon was changed out when it was at half of the action limit. Mr. Gamache responded that sampling of the system is done on a monthly basis, and increases in the concentration can not be accurately predicted. To be proactive it was decided to do the change out now rather than later.

Mr. Morris asked how many gallons a day the plant was producing before the shut down occurred. Mr. Gamache stated the system pumps approximately 150 gallons per minute. Mr. Morris also asked about the containment being effected due to the plant shut down. Mr. Gamache stated the effect would be similar as it was before the wells were rehabilitated. The CAB was reminded of the previous meeting when it was explained that capture of the plume was regained and Mr. Spittler's well did not have detections of PCE. Mr. Morris asked if there were other large production wells in the area. Mr. Gamache stated he did not believe so.

The June sampling was currently in process for six wells in the area. Mr. Gamache stated that the Tonto and Cherry draft remedial investigation (RI) report had been received and is being reviewed. Once the review is complete, it will be sent out for public comment. All CAB members will be notified and a notice in the paper will be published, and a copy will be placed in the repository at the library. The remedial objectives (RO) report will be released at the same time.

Mr. Mears asked when the treatment system needed to be running again. Mr. Gamache stated that after discussions with the town, the goal is to have it running by the end of June.

4. Signing of The Updated Charter –

Mrs. Flood reminded the CAB that at the last meeting it was discussed and approved to change a paragraph in the charter regarding quorum. Mr. Morris stated he had further discussion on a different section of the charter, specifically Item K on page three. Mr. Morris stated he has past reservations with ADEQ regarding notification and performance of the treatment system and the Town of Payson (TOP) drinking water reports. Mr. Morris stated that he will not sign the charter with Item K included. Mr. Morris also stated "if there are contaminants in the water, even trace amounts, the people of Payson are going to be informed".

Mr. Morris also referenced the June 2005 WQARF board report on the Payson PCE site. In the report, Mr. Morris quotes:

“Mrs. Samantha Roberts requested the TOP to send out a letter to clarify the issue of MTBE.”

Mr. Morris reminded everyone that a year had passed and no letter has been issued by the TOP. Mr. Shoemaker commented, ‘That is the TOP problem’. Mr. Morris felt that the Town did not comply with Mrs. Robert’s request to provide full disclosure in the last consumer confidence report. He feels strongly that ADEQ should be able to provide the disclosure that the town did not. He stated he considered that ADEQ worked for the CAB, and therefore he requires their representatives to take action on this issue now and in the future.

Mr. Gamache commented that ADEQ relies on the CAB to relay information from the meetings to the public. Also, certain items in the charter are included by the Attorney General’s Office. Mrs. Flood offered to research with the Attorney General’s Office to see if item K could be removed, amended or needed to stay as written.

Mr. Wiseman commented that there was a limited amount of information they (CAB) could disseminate to the public. He felt that ADEQ personnel had more power to disseminate information.

Mrs. Herrig commented that there are two other papers in town: the Patriot and The Rim County Gazette. Mrs. Flood commented that those papers will get meeting notices sent to them as well.

Mr. Hattrup offered a final comment on Item K to make sure the issues get addressed. He stated “this is not an article to just be deleted and should have some specifics.” Mr. Morris asked to have item K in the charter include verbiage stating that ADEQ will write a letter to the town if trace amounts are found. Mrs. Flood reminded the CAB and Mr. Morris that the charter is for operating procedures. Discussion ensued on the authority of ADEQ to write letters and the authority of ADEQ personnel to speak with media outlets. Mr. Morris stated ADEQ has spoken with the media in the past. Mr. Gamache responded by saying that with the current governor and ADEQ director, our media policy dictates all communication with the media go through ADEQ’s Office of Communications. In addition to attending CAB meetings, public can find copies of documents and reports relating to the sites in the public repository.

Mr. Gamache continued to explain that by statute, the state is not allowed to operate the drinking water system. ADEQ only operates the treatment plant. ADEQ and the TOP have an agreement where the Town oversees operation of the treatment system. Once water leaves the treatment system, the TOP treats it as drinking water and follows the statutes covering drinking water.

Mr. Gamache clarified per written agreement that most costs of operating the system are 65% ADEQ responsibility and 35% Town of Payson responsibility, and he again stated that ADEQ does not operate the drinking water component. The WQARF section of

ADEQ can not send a letter in regard to trace amounts because they are not responsible for the town's drinking water.

Mrs. Flood clarified that the duty of the CAB is to relay to the public what is discussed at meetings. Mrs. Flood summarized the outlets that information can be accessed. The CAB is here to discuss the WQARF site and the treatment plant. The drinking water and water system, as per agreement, are covered by a different program at ADEQ.

Mr. Morris asked other CAB members how many people they have been able to speak with regarding the site. Mr. Hattrup commented that perhaps the CAB should compile a report and have a member of the board present it to the town council. Mrs. Flood stated that would be a good topic to discuss for the next meeting.

Mr. Shoemaker asked if there were any other aspects of the charter to review. Mrs. Flood reminded the CAB this charter format has been in use since 1998 and that the only issue discussed at the last meeting before it was approved by the CAB was Item A. Mr. Wiseman questioned the content of section 4, C. Mrs. Flood answered Mr. Wiseman questions and concerns about Section 4, C.

5. Nomination and voting of CAB Co-Chair –

Mr. Shoemaker commented that both co-chairs needed to be voted on at the same time per the charter. Mr. Mears nominated Mr. Shoemaker and Mr. Morris to continue as CAB co-chairs. Mr. Hattrup seconded the motion, and Mr. Morris commented to the CAB that his feeling of full disclosure is clear and he will continue to be that way. He will not give up on the issue, and if the CAB was okay with it, he will continue as co-chair. The CAB unanimously voted to have Mr. Shoemaker and Mr. Morris remain as CAB co-chairs.

6. CAB application voting-

All CAB members received a copy of the application from Diane Sexton. Mr. Morris moved to accept the application, and Mr. Hattrup seconded. All voted to accept Diane Sexton as a member of the CAB.

Mr. Morris asked for a full transcription of the minutes. Mrs. Flood reminded the CAB that this issue was discussed at past meetings. The only requirements for minutes are milestones and action items as dictated by Arizona statute. Mrs. Flood stated that she will do the best she can to give more detailed minutes. The minutes will also be available on CD as previously requested.

7. Call to the Public –

Mr. Godfree asked Mr. Gamache if the group had been informed on how an adsorption bed works, what a breakthrough curve is and what trace amounts mean. Mr. Gamache responded that had been discussed at previous meetings. Mr. Godfree felt the question

seemed to stem from a misunderstanding of a breakthrough curve. Mr. Gamache stated that it had to do with the contaminate MTBE, which does not have a standard.

Mr. Godfree needed clarification on how the staff operates the treatment system. Mr. Gamache stated the agreement is that the TOP oversees the day-to-day operation of the system as well as the drinking water system. An engineering firm is contracted to analyze the operation of the treatment system. Further explanation was given by Mr. Gamache on how the engineering firm did their analysis of the treatment system.

8. Future Meeting Date/Agenda Topics

ADEQ proposed the next meeting be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. The CAB agreed. Agenda topics will include further discussion on the charter with a determination on Item K. Mr. Morris requested that the CAB contact information be available at meetings for the public. Site updates for both sites and voting on minutes will also be included.

Mrs. Flood informed the CAB of the community involvement plan update interview questions that were going to be mailed and explained how they worked. The mailing will include a CAB member application and be sent to all addresses in the community involvement area. Copies were made available at the meeting. Mr. Morris asked that a scanned copy of the CAB application be placed on line at the Payson PCE site on the ADEQ web page.

9. Adjourn

Mr. Wiseman moved to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Hatstrup seconded. All voted to adjourn the meeting.